



Parks and Recreation Board Minutes
Wednesday, February 19, 2020 – 5:30 pm
Cravath Lake Front Room
2nd Floor, Whitewater Municipal Building
312 W. Whitewater St. Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order and Roll Call

Matthew Sylvester-Knudtson, Carol McCormick, Steve Ryan, Larry Kachel and Jan Bilgen
Absent: Mike Kilar, Jen Kaina, Bruce Parker, Jaime Weigel and Traci Wilson
Staff: Eric Boettcher, Brian de la Torriente, Debbi Oas and Lorelei Bowen
Guest: None

Consent Agenda:

CA-A Approval of Parks and Recreation Board minutes of December 18, 2019

Motion by Steve Ryan to accept the consent agenda. Second by Jan Bilgen. Ayes: Matthew Sylvester-Knudtson, Carol McCormick, Steve Ryan, Larry Kachel and Jan Bilgen
Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Mike Kilar, Jen Kaina, Bruce Parker, Jaime Weigel and Traci Wilson

Hearing of Citizen Comments:

No formal action will be taken during this meeting, although issues raised may become part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a 3 minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however, citizens are invited to speak to those issues as designated in the agenda.

Staff Reports

Director Updates – Boettcher

Chuck Nass was awarded Lifetime Achievement award. He will be recognized at the next council meeting.

Lake Drawdown – There was a community meeting the first weekend of February. There was a lot of attendance. The DNR presented. There were lots of questions asked with positive feedback from community.

Effigy Mounds Cleanup is on hold because there is no frost. Unable to bring anything down. Can't woodchip the pathway yet. Need to reschedule a day for cleanup.

Bilgen suggested adding the project to make a difference day.

Facility updates – Completed key fob access for Starin Park Community Building, Cravath Lakefront building and the Downtown Armory. This will track the coming in and out process of renters or users. Access cards or codes are easier to replace than keys. Able to set parameters for renters/users.

Aquatic Center updates

Oas – WAFC hosted J-Hawk meet and High School Conference meet. Birthday parties are going well. Half-price swim is very popular. Swim lessons are going well. The new fee schedule seems to be working out well.

Sylvester-Knudtson asked how many members converted with the new fee schedule

Bowden acknowledged that 61 seniors converted to aquatic memberships while 17 converted to fitness on memberships since the beginning of 2020.

Bilgen asked if a survey was sent out regarding new fee structure.

Bowden shared that a survey was sent out but there was not much response.

CA-1 – Discussion and Possible Approval of Goose Roundup

Boettcher – The current proposal for the goose roundup is to have someone roundup the geese and euthanize them. The DNR is in favor of this. It would cost roughly \$4,000 for someone to do it. This would happen in June/July while geese are molting

Bilgen asked for a more comprehensive plan for goose roundup as this just addresses one year.

Motion by Ryan to approve current goose roundup proposal. Second by McCormick. Ayes: Matthew Sylvester-Knudtson, Carol McCormick, Steve Ryan, Larry Kachel. Noes: Jan Bilgen. Abstain: None. Absent: Mike Kilar, Jen Kaina, Bruce Parker, Jaime Weigel and Traci Wilson

CA-2 – Armory Gym Facility Use

Boettcher referred to handouts and newly edited policy.

Boettcher explained the possibility of opening up the Armory for more groups to use to provide more recreational opportunity. Cameras are installed to keep a closer eye on activity. A higher security deposit will be created.

Kachel added wordage should be added to policy to make it clear that if there is damage, more than the security deposit could be a penalty for damage.

Motion by Bilgen to accept changes made to Armory usage policy, Second by Kachel. Ayes: Matthew Sylvester-Knudtson, Carol McCormick, Steve Ryan, Larry Kachel and Jan Bilgen. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Mike Kilar, Jen Kaina, Bruce Parker, Jaime Weigel and Traci Wilson

CA-3 – Facility Rental and Reservation Policy for Non-paying Groups

Boettcher explained there are a few non-paying groups that use facilities excessively; and revenue is being lost because those rentals are on prime renting days.

Bilgen suggested creating primetime hours. Non-paying groups can use unlimited non-primetime hours, but limited use of primetime hours and subject to availability.

Boettcher suggested maybe the Common Council Room could be used for certain groups that are just looking to meet.

Ryan expressed creating a document with new hours and bring to the board for the next meeting.

CA-4 - Request for Future Agenda Items

Time of future meetings

Comprehensive plan for goose roundup

Proposal for prime and non-prime hours for rental facilities

CA-5 - Adjournment

Motion by Steve Ryan to adjourn at 6:07 pm. Second by Jan Bilgen. Ayes: Matthew Sylvester-Knudtson, Carol McCormick, Steve Ryan, Larry Kachel and Jan Bilgen. None. Abstain: None. Absent: Jen Kaina, Mike Kilar, Jaime Weigel, Bruce Parker and Traci Wilson.

Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Respectfully submitted,
Brian de la Torre